

REMARKS

The Office Action dated October 2, 2003, has been received and carefully considered. In this response, claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-22, and 41-43 have been canceled. In addition, claims 4, 11, and 23-25 have been amended and rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Application respectfully submits that claims 4, 11, and 23-40 which were previously objected to by the Examiner are now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number, in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0206, and please credit any excess fees to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

Hunton & Williams LLP

By: 

Herbert V. Kerner

Registration No. 42,721

Reg. No. 44,487

Hunton & Williams LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006-1109
Telephone: (202) 955-1500
Facsimile: (202) 778-2201
Date: October 6, 2003